

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 00874 302314Z

64

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 OFA-01 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-11 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-02 OES-05 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAL-01 STR-04 TAR-01 /152 W
----- 113929

P R 301740Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8862

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

UNCLAS QUITO 0874

MEXICO PLEASE PASS TO MOORE AND RIDGWAY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, EFIS, PFOR, EC

SUBJECT: ECUADOREAN REACTION TO US SENATE VOTE ON 200-MILE
FISHING LIMIT

REF: QUITO 0837

1. ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE AYALA LASSO GAVE ON JANUARY
29TH, AN ECUADOREAN REACTION TO THE SENATE ACTION EXPANDING
THE US FISHING LIMIT TO 200 MILES. TEXT OF HIS COMMENTS, FROM
JANUARY 30TH'S EL COMERCIO, IS GIVEN BELOW.

2. "IN THE DECISION ADOPTED BY THE US SENATE, EXTENDING THE
FISHING WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES TO 200 MILES, ECUADOR
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PAGE 02 QUITO 00874 302314Z

NOTES, FIRST ANOTHER IMPORTANT EXPRESSION OF THE CURENT

THOUGHT

WHICH IS INCREASINGLY FINDING ACCEPTANCE IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONSCIENCE, TOWARD APPROVAL AND RECOGNITION OF THE RIGHT OF A MARITIME STATE TO SET THE LIMITS OF ITS JURISDICTION AND SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE SEAS ADJACENT TO ITS COASTS, AMONG OTHER REASONS SO IT CAN OBTAIN FOR THE BENEFIT OF ITS PEOPLE THE RESOURCES IN THAT SEA. SO SAID ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE AYALA LASSO.

3. "AYALA MADE THESE REMARKS UPON BEING ASKED ABOUT THE DECISION OF THE US SENATE TO EXTEND TO 200 MILES (THE AMERICAN) JURISDICTIONAL LIMIT OVER FISHING ACTIVITIES.

4. "AYALA ADDED 'THIS PIECE OF LEGISLATION IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE, HAVING COME FROM SUCH A POWERFUL COUNTRY WHICH IS, AT THIS TIME, THE PRINCIPAL MARITIME POWER.'

5. "'NATURALLY,' OBSERVED THE MINISTER, 'IN ORDER TO GIVE A MORE PRECISE COMMENTARY ON THE US ACTION, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO HAVE ITS TEXT, THE MORE SO SINCE THE ACTION WHICH THE US SENATE HAS TAKEN PRESENTS WORRISOME ELEMENTS FOR OTHER COUNTRIES, SUCH AS CONTEMPLATING THE WIDEST AND MOST COMPREHENSIVE JURISDICTIONAL RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO THE FIRST RIGHTS OF US FISHING BOATS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THREATENING, BY MEANS OF COMMERCIAL RETALIATION (DENIAL OF GENERALIZED TARIFF PREFERENCES UNDER THE NEW US TRADE REFORM ACT), THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT REACHED AGREEMENTS, SATISFACTORY TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, WHICH WOULD PERMIT ITS POWERFUL FISHING FLEET TO CONDUCT FISHING ACTIVITY IN THE JURISDICTIONAL WATERS OF THOSE COUNTRIES.'" BREWSTER

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